

the convenience of its members. This compendium be edited with short notes giving in nutshell the position of their implementation in Centre/State along with references to earlier and later resolutions on a particular subject”.

Explanatory Note : It is generally observed that once resolutions are passed in a particular session of the Indian Historical Records Commission, they are published in the proceedings volume of that particular session with information regarding the follow up actions in a few of the subsequent proceedings volumes. There being no consolidated compendium of past resolutions, it is rather difficult to get an idea of the action taken on them and at times very often they lapse without being fully implemented for one reason or the other or are pushed out of the memory of the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission. New members are particularly handicapped for want for the same. It, therefore, looks pertinent that a compendium is prepared.

Standing Committee's views : A compendium of the Resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission covering the years 1919—1948 was published in 1949. Part II of this compendium pertaining to years 1948—1973 is now under print.

Proceedings : In view of the Standing Committee's observations, the resolution was dropped with the consent of the mover.

C. Preservation of journals in Indian languages

(3) Resolution by Dr. Durgaprasad Bhattacharya

“The Indian Historical Records Commission hereby appeals to learned societies, research institutions and State Governments to take special steps to preserve and maintain journals in Indian languages published during the nineteenth century and requests the Members of the Commission to take an initiative in the matter whenever possible.

Resolved further that the Union Ministry of Education be requested to initiate a move in this direction to preserve this important source of history by microfilming from abroad if necessary.

The Indian Historical Records Commission resolves to extend its co-operation to all concerned”.

Explanatory Note : Recently, a project was undertaken by the Socio-Economic Research Institute, Calcutta, to index and analyse economic writing in Bengali. It was found that about 50 percent (or more) of volumes of journals and periodicals were totally missing. Among the rest, most of the volumes are in a very shattered condition. These journals are very important source material of history. The Bangiya Sahitya Parishad and the National Library possess the largest holdings. It is presumed that journals in other languages also deserve a similar treatment. The Documentation Centre of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) has been trying to catalogue available holdings. It is equally important to maintain and preserve these important sources of history.

Standing Committee's views : It has been the policy and plan scheme of the National Archives of India to acquire from abroad microfilm/xerox copies of material bearing on modern Indian History irrespective of their being newspapers, journals, letters etc. Other institutions may be encouraged to do the same, provided duplication is avoided. The Government of India may lend its weight in this behalf.

Proceedings : The resolution was discussed and the President, Dr. P. C. Chunder, stated that there were large number of papers in the country having different degrees of importance and enjoying varied standing. The house agreed with the Secretary that National Archives of India be given suggestions regarding journals or other material which deserved high priority in this regard. This was supported by the Chairman and the following resolution was passed unanimously.

Resolution II : "The Indian Historical Records Commission hereby appeals to learned societies, research institutions and State Governments to take special steps to preserve and maintain journals in Indian languages published during the nineteenth century and requests the members of the Commission to take an initiative in the matter whenever possible."

D. Provision for a separate research room for the research scholars in the State Archives

(4) Resolution by Shri J. Tewari

"Resolved that provision for a separate Research Room be made for Research Scholars in State Archives in order to facilitate their research work as well as to improve the working condition of the personnel of the State Archives".

Explanatory Note : Utilisation of records in the Archives by the different Research Scholars coming both from India and abroad, is one of the important activities of any Archives. The Research Scholars come to the Archives in order to consult records bearing on their respective subjects of research. They have to finish their project within a certain specified period. They cannot work well and utilise their time properly unless there is suitable seating accommodation and environment for them. In this regard the Research Room of the National Archives of India may be considered to be an ideal. It has become all the more imperative in view of the fact that with the introduction of M. Phil by the University Grants Commission, and dissertation programme by certain Universities as well as greater importance attached to Ph. D., and research work in the field of teaching lines, the number of Research Scholars has automatically multiplied, and would go on increasing. To accommodate a number of Research Scholars and the personnel jointly at one very little space does not appear to be suitable to either of them. So even in the absence of a separate Archival Building which may be practically a time-taking affair, some suitable accommodation with requisite amenities in proportion to the average number of Research Scholars may be separately arranged.

It is, therefore, requested that the Indian Historical Records Commission may consider this difficulty, and recommend to the State Governments for making provision for a separate Research Room for Research